

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: July 9, 2007
POSITION: Neutral, note concerns

BILL NUMBER: SB 13
AUTHOR: M. Wyland

BILL SUMMARY: School Facilities Funding Applications: CTE Criteria

This bill requires the State Allocation Board (SAB) to include an additional question in the funding application for new construction to determine if the funding requested includes a career technical education (CTE) facility component, and if not, how the district plans to meet the need for CTE facilities and how the district would identify that need. Additionally, this bill requires the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) to compile and report a summary of those answers to the SAB and the Department of Education (SDE) on a quarterly basis, and make those answers available in a publicly accessible manner. Finally, this bill requires these answers to be included on an SDE website required by AB 597 (Hancock); to the extent that bill is enacted.

FISCAL SUMMARY

This bill could impose minor, absorbable costs on local districts to indicate on an application for funding if a new school construction project will include a CTE component and classroom space to accommodate the CTE program. If the answer is no, the school district will be required to provide information on how the students to be housed in the project will have their CTE needs met, as well as how the district identifies the need for CTE facilities. This would not result in any reimbursable mandated costs to the state as local districts must provide this information as a condition of receiving state facilities funding.

Finance notes that the costs to compile and report answers to the additional question specified in this bill would be minor and absorbable to OPSC. Additionally, to comply with the requirement that this information be publicly accessible, OPSC would likely experience some additional, but minor workload, to post this information on their website.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Amendments to this bill since our analysis of the March 21st version do not alter our position.

Specifically, the July 9th version of the bill: 1) adds an additional question to school facilities funding applications requiring districts to indicate how they identify CTE facilities needs, 2) requires OPSC to compile and report answers to both questions added by this bill on a quarterly basis, rather than once per year, 3) requires OPSC to provide a summary of these answers to SDE, in addition to the SAB, and 4) requires the summary of these answers to be made publicly accessible. To the extent that AB 597 is enacted, it would require this information to be linked to the CTE website established by that bill.

COMMENTS

Finance is neutral, but notes concerns on this bill. Chapter 778, Statutes of 2006 (Wyland) requires the career technical education advisory committee at each district to provide written confirmation that the need for CTE facilities is being adequately met within the district as a condition of the district receiving funds for a new construction or modernization project. This bill would place even greater importance on CTE by requiring districts to indicate on the application for funding how pupil's CTE needs are being met, and thus is

Analyst/Principal (0341) T. Todd	Date	Program Budget Manager Jeannie Oropeza	Date
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Department Deputy Director	Date
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Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

BILL ANALYSIS	Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)
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consistent with the Administration's goal of placing greater focus on CTE programs and facilities. However, we do note the following concerns:

- It is unclear how the SAB or SDE will utilize the compiled information. According to the author, the intent of compiling information is to better understand how school districts are meeting CTE needs in order to inform future policy. However, for those districts answering “yes” to this question, there is no requirement for supplemental information detailing what kind of CTE program will be supported, and how that program would be supported with proposed project funds.
- Although providing information about how districts are meeting CTE facilities needs would appear to complement other programmatic information already being compiled within the Governor’s Career Technical Education Initiative, the requirement that this information be linked to the website proposed under AB 597 (Hancock) is a potential concern. Specifically, the information to be posted on the website required by that bill may duplicate information already being collected through the Governor’s Career Technical Education Initiative.

		SO	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)						
Code/Department	LA	(Dollars in Thousands)							
Agency or Revenue	CO	PROP							Fund
Type	RV	98	FC	2006-2007	FC	2007-2008	FC	2008-2009	Code
6350/Facil Aid	LA	No	-----	No/Minor	Fiscal Impact	-----			6057
6350/Facil Aid	SO	No	-----	No/Minor	Fiscal Impact	-----			6057
6350/Facil Aid	LA	No	-----	No/Minor	Fiscal Impact	-----			6044
6350/Facil Aid	LA	No	-----	No/Minor	Fiscal Impact	-----			6044
<u>Fund Code</u>	<u>Title</u>								
6044	School Facilities Fund, 2004 State								
6057	School Facilities Fund, 2006 State								